STATEMENT-II

List of Public Sector Undertakings shifted out of Delhi

Ministry of Water Resources

(a) National Project Construction Ltd. renamed as Rashtriya Priyojana Nirman Nigam Ltd.

Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers

(a) Pyrites, Phosphates & Chemicals Ltd

(b) Paradeep Phosphates Ltd.

Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas

(a) Indo-Burman Petroleum Co. Ltd.

Sewerage Schemes in Coastal Towns

1730. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have called for the status and proposals of the sewerage treatment facilities from the selected towns along the coastal belt;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Kerala had submitted any proposals for the same; and

(c) if so, the present status of the said proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government of Kerala had forwarded a preliminary status report of sewerage scheme in 10 coastal cities for exploring the possibility of external funding from the Global Environment Facility through the Ministry of Environment & Forests/Department of Ocean Development. The external funding has not materialised so far.

Treatment of Sewage

1731. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any project for the treatment of sewage-sludge through Gamma Irradiation in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the estimated cost and the places where it is proposed to be commissioned and the capacity of the plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b). Ministry of Environment & Forests had carried out a study for disinfection of sewage sludge using gama irradiation in collaboration with Bhabha Atomic Centre, at Baroda in 1993-94. Due to limitation on source materials, high capital and operation costs of the plants, the technology has not been found to be economically viable.

[Translation]

Scientific Research

1732. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :
SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India's contribution in Global Scientific Researches is declining;

(b) if so, the details thereof in past 15 years;

(c) whether according to international science magazine India's position has reached from 8th to 15th place in scientific researches; and

(d) if so, the incentives being offered to scientists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K.ALAGH) : (a) to (c). No Sir. There are diverse parameters to measure the contribution of national scientific research to the global effort. One such measure is the number of patents granted in USA to the nationals of a country, by this count India's performance improved significantly. As compared to 9 patents granted in 1981, the number granted in 1995 was 38, a fourfold increase. Increasingly, that patents are being considered as a more reliable yardstick for a country's scientific output. India's declining position in research has been alleged in a letter to the Editor of the journal 'Nature' on the basis of the publication count of papers in journals covered by the Science Citation Index (SCI). As no information has been given in the letter regarding the compatibility to parameters such as number of journals, subjects, etc. used for making the comparison, the claims cannot be substantiated.

(d) The Government is encouraging publicly funded organisation such as, CSIR, ICAR and ICMR to share with their scientists financial returns realised from their researches.

[English]

Deep Sea Fishing

1733. SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to ban deep sea fishing;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and by when; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of persons involved in deep sea fishing?